

SENATOR DWORAK: Oh, so if I pay somebody to go out four hours and put on bumper stickers I must report it, but if somebody goes out and voluntarily puts in four hours putting on bumper stickers, that has no value to a particular candidate or a particular issue, and that need not be reported.

SENATOR BRENNAN: Well it does have a value to a candidate.

SENATOR DWORAK: Then shouldn't that be reported, Senator Brennan?

SENATOR BRENNAN: Would you want to report every time that you went out and put a yard sign up, or put a bumper sticker on, or made a phone call? The way the law was originally written you report every phone call you make for somebody.

SENATOR DWORAK: But you're saying that if I pay somebody to do it I must report it, but then if I don't pay anybody and they sit down in a phone bank for two or three hours that need not be reported. There seems to be an inconsistency there. The value is the same to the candidate, regardless of whether the candidate pays for it, or whether it's done on a voluntary basis. That is what we're getting at with the meat of this bill. It seems like we're giving a terrific edge to a particular type of campaign organization.

SENATOR BRENNAN: That is the idea of campaign organizations, to get an edge.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you Senator Brennan. I think the point is clear that we have a situation here where we can have tremendous value, but just because a check hasn't passed that value need not be reported. If the check is passed then the value needs to be reported, but the benefit is the same under both instances. To be totally fair both should be reported to that candidate, or to that particular issue. So I think that Senator Carsten's amendment is absolutely essential to keep this bill in a semblance of working order. I would urge, very strongly, the adoption.

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body. I'd like to ask a question of Senator Dworak, if I could. Don, we once had a conversation discussing the political accountability, and what is right in terms of campaigns. At that time you said that the criteria that contributions to a campaign really are significant because that shows that somebody could gather the financial support and is thought well enough of, etc., to get the money to run a campaign. There are some problems with campaigning, and that is that certain special interest groups can contribute massive amounts and, therefore, candidates will owe a great deal to that contributor. The question that I wanted to get to is what about the same sort of thing with a person who can attract numbers of workers to work for him? These people do that in a nonpaid situation. In the case of my campaign I had, you know, better than 100 people putting in a lot of time for me. Now I couldn't hardly get those people to volunteer their time if I also told them that they had to write it down on a sheet of paper, I had to cost it out some way, and I don't know how you cost out volunteer time, I would have to cost it out, then I would have to report it. Now how could I possibly do that? The mechanics are absolutely ridiculous. Can you answer that question?